



THE KEYSTONE

Defender

L. 6 No. 7

STATE COUNCIL OF CIVIL DEFENSE, HARRISBURG, PA.

JULY, 1957

July Marked by Six Significant Civil Defense Developments

THE MONTH of July, 1957, was marked by more developments in Civil Defense, both in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and in the nation as a whole, than any similar period in recent years.

These developments, in brief, were as follows:

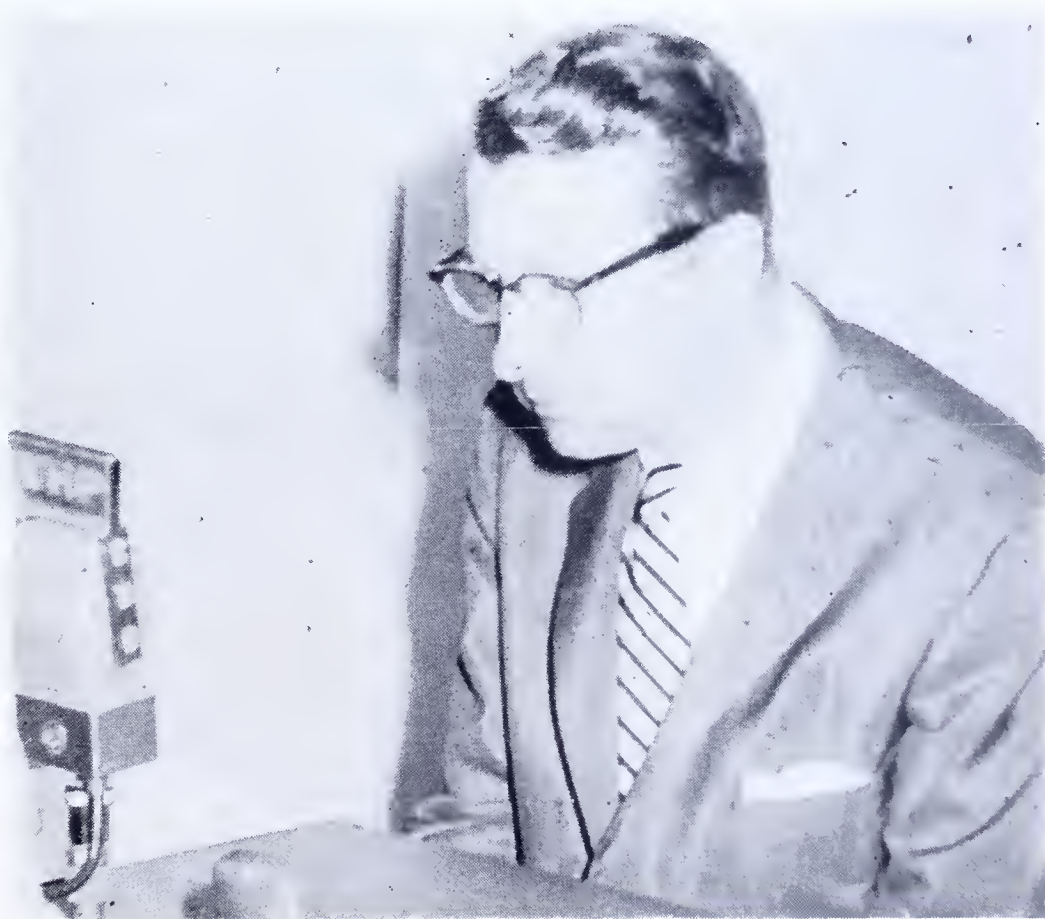
1. The State Council of Civil Defense, its staff and the Civil Defense organizations of the political subdivisions cooperated fully with the Federal Civil Defense Administration in the planning and execution of "Operation Alert 1957," an accomplishment that by no means all the states of the nation were prepared to undertake.

Governor on-the-Spot

Pennsylvania's participation included the active; on-the-spot participation of its Governor George M. Leader. And while held strictly within the framework of the national exercise as outlined by FCDA directives, Pennsylvania's participation was adapted to the peculiar and particular needs of the Commonwealth.

2. The Federal Civil Defense Administration got a new Administrator on July 19, when The Hon. Leo A. Hoegh, former governor of Iowa, was presented his commission by President Eisenhower at a White House ceremony. He succeeds former Administrator Val Peterson, who was named Ambassador to Denmark. Mr. Hoegh's appointment followed quickly after his nomination by The President was confirmed by The Senate.

3. The first Civil Defense legislation to emerge in the first session of the Eighty-fifth Congress was passed by the House of Representatives on July 15.



A grimly serious Governor George M. Leader personally touched off "Operation Alert 1957" with a radio and television appeal to the citizens of the Commonwealth to cooperate in the annual exercise. The Governor spent much of his time on Friday, July 12, in the Main Capitol Building headquarters of the State Council of Civil Defense and closely followed and took part in the conduct of the exercise.

The measure passed by the house was H. R. 7576, better known as the Durham bill. It is one of the two most important Civil Defense measures before The Congress, the other being the so-called Holifield bill. The Durham bill has been generally described as an Administration measure.

Principal provision of the Durham bill is that it empowers the new Federal Civil Defense Administrator, Leo

A. Hoegh, to "make financial contributions to the States (including interstate civil defense authorities . . .) for necessary and essential State and local civil defense personnel and administrative expenses . . . Provided, that the financial contributions to the State . . . shall not exceed one-half of the total cost . . ."

Representative Chet Holifield of
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The Keystone Defender

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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
STATE COUNCIL OF CIVIL DEFENSE



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Industries and Many Other Agencies Aided In Big Test

Pennsylvania's industries were well-represented at "Operation Alert."

Among those present, in addition to those pictured on page 8 of the *Defender*, were Mr. Shellman H. Brown of the Pennsylvania Power and Light Co., and Mr. A. S. Hines, assistant to the president of the Bell Telephone Co. of Pennsylvania.

Also present were O. D. White of the Federal-State Flood Forecasting Service, and Paul F. Sutton of the U. S. Weather Bureau.

Also present were many other representatives of various Federal agencies, the Armed Forces and Commonwealth services who maintain liaison with and work regularly with the State Council of Civil Defense.

Editorial Views of 'Operation Alert 1957'

"... not in criticism but in a constructive spirit we suggest 'Operation Alert' should ... alert our Nation to the need for a whole new approach to Civilian Defense. Mighty few would have survived this one."

—*Phila. Inquirer*

"... The blame for the confusion and inefficiency that accompanied this test does not rest with any one individual or group of individuals ... The blame belongs on a nation and its people who have always treated Civil Defense lightly, even during wartime. ...

"The entire scope of our Civil Defense should be reviewed and, even more than that, leadership with real impact, leadership starting with the President, must be furnished."

—*Harrisburg News*

"... There is no way for the unknowing citizen to distinguish the three-minute blast of an air raid siren from that of a fire engine, police car or ambulance. Some more recognizable signal system should be devised."

—*Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*

"... there is nothing in the news these days to indicate that the possibility of an attack on this nation has diminished. Nor is there any indication that natural disasters will cease to plague us from time to time. Early this month many lives were lost in Louisiana and more would have been lost had it not been for the readiness of a Civil Defense force there."

—*Erie News*

"... The real significance of Civil Defense, which we should all appreciate, is that it is a sensible attempt to figure out in advance how we should all behave in case of a new Pearl Harbor experience."

—*Lock Haven Express*

"... Favorable consideration should be given to the requests of the officials of the various States that Federal funds or grants now available for Civil Defense be extended to include State and local costs."

—*Scranton Tribune*

"We think it's time this whole so-called 'civil defense' program be relegated to the Scrap pile."

"It's not civil defense. It's travesty. It's mockery. ...

"We have the greatest respect for those hundreds of public-spirited people who compromise the Civilian Defense organization, who try to make it work ...

"What is badly needed is a brand new approach to civil defense ...

"The government and its defense department should promptly give its undivided attention to this new approach, whatever it may be."

—*Lewistown Times*

"... Now that we have achieved at least a program of coordination, the civil defense program is cracking at the seams where it shouldn't—at the federal level."

—*Bethlehem Globe-Times*

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Miss Elizabeth Eicherly RN, Assumes Duty As New CD Emergency Care Head

The State Council of Civil Defense staff was strengthened in an important operational field July 17, when Dr. Richard Gerstell, Director, announced the appointment of an especially well-qualified new Chief of Emergency Care.

The new section chief is Miss Elizabeth Evelyn Eicherly, of Grantville, Dauphin County, who assumed her new duties August 1.

She Is ANC Captain

Miss Eicherly, who has been a registered nurse since 1943 and an American Red Cross nurse since 1944, comes to the State Council directly from an annual tour of active duty with the Army Nurse Corps, in whose Reserve she is a captain.



Miss Eicherly

Before going on active duty, Miss Eicherly was instructor of science in nursing education, and at one time acting educational director at the Harrisburg Hospital School of Nursing.

She was previously night supervisor at the Lebanon Sanatorium of Lebanon, Pa., and before that surgical nurse technician at the Harrisburg Hospital.

Miss Eicherly received a B.A. from Lebanon Valley College, Annville, Pa., in 1950 after completing her nursing training at the Harrisburg Hospital. She graduated from Derry Twp. High School in 1938, the Froelich Conservatory of Music in 1939, and received a certificate from the Hershey Junior College in 1940.

Trained in Nuclear Warfare

Miss Eicherly was commissioned in the Nurse Corps in April, 1945 and served in the American and Mid-Pacific Theatres for eighteen months in World War II. She received intensive Army training in mass casualty techniques, nuclear medicine and tactical nuclear warfare concepts.

Miss Eicherly was chairman of the Pennsylvania Nurses Association's National Defense Committee. She is a

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New, Well-qualified FCDA Head Makes Early Visit To State



Leo A. Hoegh, newly-confirmed Federal Civil Defense Administration head, lost little time in visiting the nation's third largest state and getting a quick briefing on its Civil Defense posture. The new administrator, pictured above (seated) with his deputy, Lewis E. Berry, Jr., came to Harrisburg Friday, Aug. 9, as one of the Federal officials designated by President Eisenhower to attend the conference of governors at nearby Hershey. He was met at the airport by Dr. Richard Gerstell, director of the State Council of Civil Defense, and Craig A. Williamson, state operations officer, who accompanied him to Hershey.

Leo A. Hoegh Saw Need For Civil Defense First Hand As Combat Officer

[The following official biography of the new Federal Civil Defense Administration's head, The Hon. Leo A. Hoegh, has been prepared especially for THE KEYSTONE DEFENDER by the office of J. N. Bailey, Acting Director of Education, FCDA Region 2, at Olney, Md.]

A man who viewed the plight of civilians in war-torn Europe with a determination that it must not happen here, has become the leader in efforts of the Federal government to assure national survival in event of attack upon the United States. He is Leo A. Hoegh, former Governor of Iowa, and now Administrator of the Federal Civil Defense Administration.

Mr. Hoegh was born on a farm in

Audubon County, Iowa, March 30, 1908. Of Danish ancestry, the spelling of the family name was never changed to the English language equivalent of Hawk and is still given the Danish pronunciation of "Hoyg!" It is pure coincidence that in his new position he will replace Val Peterson, also of Danish Ancestry, and now the U. S. Ambassador to Denmark.

Holder of the degrees of B.A. and J.D. from the University of Iowa, Mr. Hoegh was admitted to the Iowa bar in 1932 and practiced in that state as the senior member of his law firm. In 1937 he was elected to the Iowa House of Representatives and four years later became city attorney for Chariton, Iowa.

Was Infantryman

Shortly after the attack on Pearl Harbor Mr. Hoegh entered the Army as an infantry platoon leader, serving in the European Theatre with the 90th and 104th Infantry Divisions. During

this service he was cited three times and received the American Bronze Star and the French Legion of Honor and Croix de Guerre.

Of even greater significance was the award of a battlefield promotion to lieutenant colonel by Maj. Gen. Terry de la Mesa Allen, commanding general of the 104th Division. Gen Allen also praised Hoegh for "keen foresight, sound tactical judgment, complete loyalty and tireless efforts."

Returning to civilian life, Mr. Hoegh became attorney general of Iowa in 1953 and governor in 1955. While governor he served as a member of the special committee on Civil Defense of the National Governor's Conference.

Looks Fit

The new CD administrator is nearly six feet tall and weighs less than 160. His trim figure and graying crew-cut hair reflect his experience as a soldier as well as his athletic record. He was

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State Leaders, CD Forces Went All-out In Operation Alert



Top Commonwealth officials, headed by Governor George M. Leader, closely followed the developments of "Operation Alert 1957" in the command control room of the State Council of Civil Defense on July 12. Left to right are Speaker of the House W. Stuart Helm, Governor Leader, Lt. Gov. Roy E. Furman, Bernard D. Murphy, chief engineer, waters, representing Dr. Maurice K. Goddard, Secretary of Forests and Waters; Dr. Richard Gerstell (standing, with pointer), and Mrs. Ruth Grigg Horting, Secretary of Public Assistance.

Public Reaction To Test Backs CD Personnel But Asks New National View

"Operation Alert 1957," the fourth annual nationwide readiness test of Civil Defense, received the wholehearted participation of Pennsylvania's State Council of Civil Defense and its staff, and the CD organizations of the political subdivisions of the Commonwealth.

Public reaction in Pennsylvania to the test was fairly unanimous.

Selected editorial comment from the press, carried elsewhere in this month's *Defender*, indicates that the public reaction could be fairly paraphrased this way:

"Civil Defense is vital to the nation and Civil Defense personnel are doing a good job, but a new approach, especially by the Federal government, is badly needed."

Director's Remarks

Dr. Richard Gerstell, Director for the State Council of Civil Defense, had the following comment on the exercise:

"From all reports received so far, the siren signal familiarization program—a distinctive phase of the Pennsylvania participation in the national exercise—was very effective. Even those who doubted its wisdom at first now agree to this.

"Despite this, however, the overall public participation was not improved over the 1956 operation. In some areas it was better than last year and in other areas not as good.

"Command control center activity was much more realistic and effective than last year, but means must be found to provide both county and local centers with increased traffic in future tests."

The months of planning for the exercise came to a climax at 11:37 a. m., Friday, July 12, when Dr. Gerstell put the test into play with the following message to all areas:

"Governor Leader has reported to State Control and has broadcast a special message marking the start of this test."

From then on until 10:42 p. m., the Commonwealth's entire Civil Defense force, augmented by many representatives of other Commonwealth departments and representatives of many industries, "played" the exercise with a realism greater than that of any previous test.

At that hour Dr. Gerstell messaged all points as follows:

"In view of reduction of traffic, all control centers may terminate activities at 2200 hours. Please extend to all our congratulations on their achievements and thanks for their cooperation."

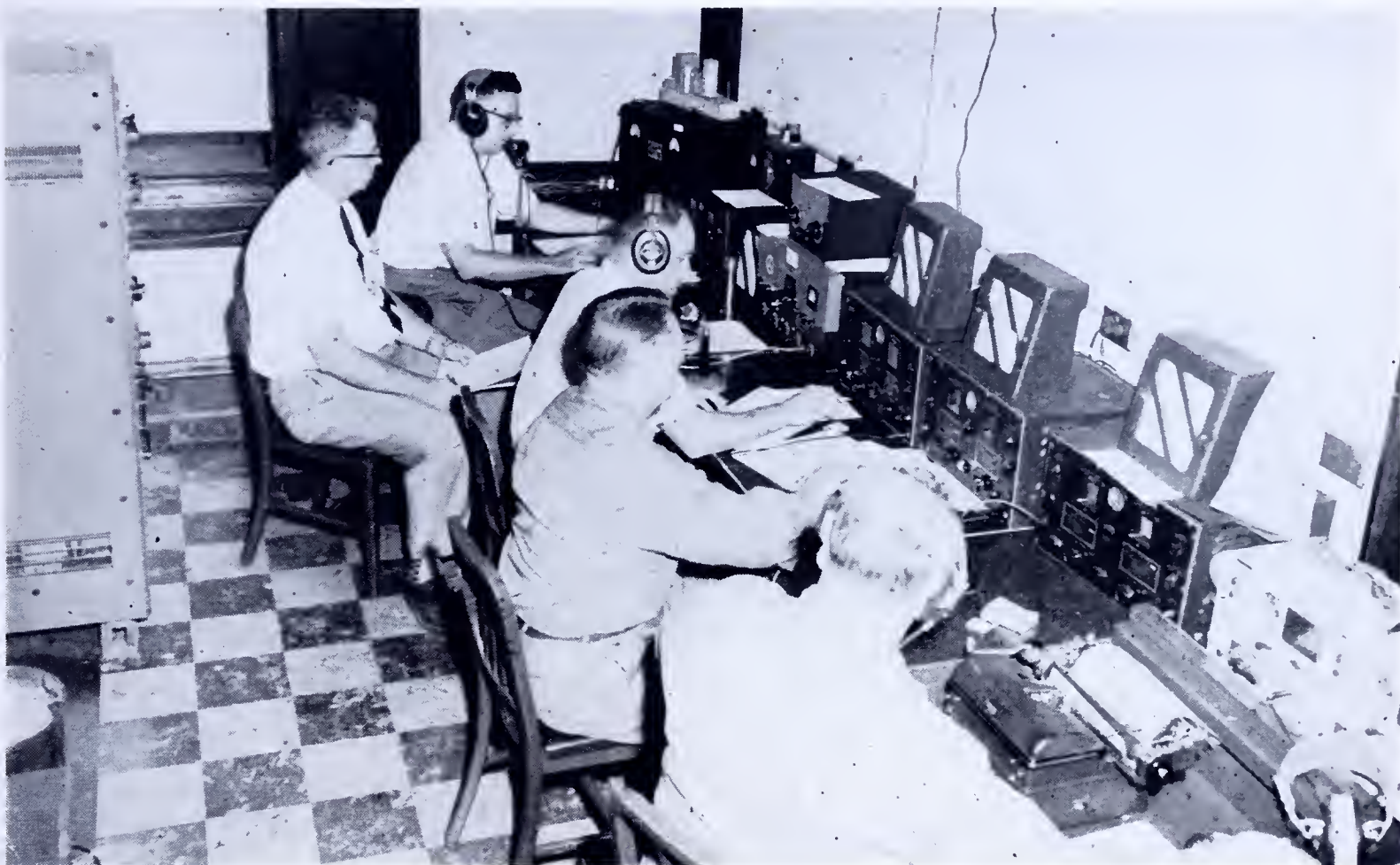
Event Well Covered

Representative of the three newspaper and radio wire services sat in as Dr. Gerstell started the Headquarters phase of the operation with a briefing for Governor Leader and Commonwealth department heads.

At the conclusion of the briefing Governor Leader expressed his appreciation of the work of the director and his staff and began his active participation in the exercise with the issuance of the necessary proclamations and official actions.

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CD 'Communicators' Have Field Day In New HQ Radio Room



Here are the men who manned the State Council of Civil Defense's new radio room in the basement of the State Capitol Building during "Operation Alert 1957" on July 12. To the left is Arden B. Hopple, Lemoyne, deputy state CD radio officer, who was in charge of the radio room during the national exercise. At the far end of the room is Nelson K. Stover, York, Central Area radio officer. In the foreground, from back to front are David F. Danner, Lemoyne; Harry L. Metzger, Mechanicsburg, and William W. Blessing, Shiremanstown, operators.

State's Radio Personnel Earn Director's Thanks

Rushed to its present state of completion only hours before the start of "Operation Alert 1957," the State Council of Civil Defense's new radio communications room will greatly increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the Commonwealth's vital CD communications section.

Put together by a judicious selection of surplus property items and matching funds acquisitions and augmented by the personal property of the Council's devoted radio amateur personnel, the new room's performance drew a warm letter of thanks from Dr. Richard Gerstell to Arden B. Hopple, Nelson R. Stover, David F. Danner, Edgar A. Weimer, Jr., William W. Blessing and Harry L. Metzger, all leaders in the state CD radio section, who were responsible for setting up the center.

A full description of the center will be published at a later date.

They're New With Us!

Forty-eight new directors of Civil Defense, including two new county directors, were appointed by Governor George M. Leader in the past month.

The new county directors are Harry M. Gammerdinger of Wayne County and Dewey S. Herrold of Snyder County.

Of the new directors, thirty-one are replacements, indicating a net gain of seventeen.

The new directors are:

EASTERN AREA

Vernon L. Porter, Thornbury Twp., Chester Co.; Thorsten Anderson, Newton Twp., and Conrad Bachman, Benton Twp., Lackawanna Twp.; William M. Ruoss, Upper Leacock Twp., Lancaster Co.; Sydney Ruch, Slatington, Lehigh Co.; Francis L. Quinn, Avoca, Luzerne Co.; Chas. W. Gray, Sr., Norristown; Jesse W. Hunsberger, Telford; Wm. Seasholtz, New Hanover; Herbert S. Krider, Hatfield; Geo. W. Lee, Royersford, and Warren H.

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Editorial Views

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"... This business of civil defense is a serious business, even though some of the heads in Washington don't seem to think so. A civil defense practice alert, with the public not participating, is like expecting to get honey—without bees."

—Latrobe Bulletin

"Let's face it: the public neither knows nor cares too much about Civilian Defense . . ."

"Each time a state or national alert such as this one scheduled today is planned, newspapers and other media knock themselves out attempting to attract attention to the event.

"What happens? The sirens start to blow and the people look around in confusion asking 'where's the fire, what's going on?'

They either don't read the articles or the words fail to sink in . . ."

Words will not win the battle for Civilian Defense recognition . . ."

Perhaps the best approach is a rigid enforcement of public participation in the drills."

—Oil City Derrick

Women Staffers 'Manned' Operation Alert Hq Phone Net



Left to right are Miss Mary Ann Burns, Mrs. Phyllis A. Horgos, Mrs. Alda Y. Givler, Mrs. Genevieve Ward, State Council of Civil Defense Administration Supervisor, Miss Joyce A. Estep, Mrs. Elizabeth K. Weiss and Mrs. Dianne L. McCreary at their posts in the State Council Headquarters on July 12, when they took part in "Operation Alert 1957."

New FCDA Head Visits Pa.

(Continued from Page 3)

a Big 10 conference swimmer and captain of his water polo team.

Administrator Hoegh is married to the former Miss Mary Louise Foster and has two children, Ristin, 13, and Janis, nine. The family lives in Charito, Iowa, where Mr. Hoegh is a trustee of the Methodist church, the Chamber of Commerce, the Rotary Club, American Legion, Odd Fellows, Elks, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Amvets and Knights of Pythias. He is a member of the Pi Kappa Alpha and Delta Theta Phi fraternities. He is a director of the Lucas County Telephone Co. A Republican, Mr. Hoegh supported the presidential aspirations of Harold Stassen, but later campaigned for President Eisenhower.

Praised in Senate

Endorsing Mr. Hoegh's appointment as FCDA Administrator before the Senate Armed Forces Committee, Sen. Bourke B. Hickenlooper called Mr. Hoegh "a vigorous and experienced administrator . . . in my mind a top executive." In his appearance before the committee Mr. Hoegh said that he felt very strongly about the necessity of Civil Defense since seeing civilians killed and injured in Europe in World War II. He also praised the accomplishment of the State Civil Defense Administrators and said that the Federal government has a "joint responsibility" with the states to protect its citizens in case of enemy attack.

They're New With Us!

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Davis, Whitpain Twp., all of Montgomery Co.

Percy M. Polley, Matamoras, and John E. Edraney, Delaware Twp.; Pike County; Anthony Wargo, Coaldale; Walter Kahn, Sr., Gordon, and Edwin H. Zimmerman, Cressona, all of Schuylkill Co.

Rexford T. Gulley, Thompson; Kenneth Skinner, Bridgewater Twp.; Freeman Miller, Clifford Twp.; Charles Booth, Franklin Twp.; Jack Masters, Hartford Twp.; Carl A. Ackerman, Silver Lake Twp.; William Burns, Forest City, and Delos Tyler, Auburn Twp., all of Susquehanna Co.

Jack W. Silberlicht, Northern Sector; Walter C. Hook, Central Sector, and Irwin L. Bloomgarden, Southern Sector, all of Wayne Co.

CENTRAL AREA

Cyril F. Weaver, McSherrystown, Adams Co.; Russell W. Eisenhower, Northumberland Borough; Ralph Croman, E. Chillisquaque Twp.; Francis J. Gilo-watski, Mt. Carmel Twp.; Frank J. Eshmont, Kulpmont; John R. Moser, Lewis Twp., and William E. Derricj, Jr., all of Northumberland Co. and Robert Manchey, Borough of Yoe, and James Krebs, E. Manchester Twp., both of York County.

WESTERN AREA

Ira Crawford, S. Beaver Twp., Beaver Co.; Wesley E. McKinney, Chicora, and Harold C. Jamison, Harrisville, both of Butler Co.

State Council's Girls Aided By Other Agencies

Women personnel of the State Council of Civil Defense put aside their typewriters, files and other office materials for the day during "Operation Alert 1957" to get a good operational knowledge of how Civil Defense works in the event of an attack.

Working under the direction of Mrs. Genevieve Ward, the Council's Administration Supervisor, the girls took over the telephone section of the communications service and worked through to the close of the long, exciting day.

The Council staff was augmented by other women personnel of the Departments of Forests and Waters, Commerce, Highways, Health and Welfare. All received letters of thanks from Dr. Richard Gerstell, the council's Director.

Miss Achsa Meagher, Buffington Twp., Indiana Co.; Anthony Pagliaro, Taylor Twp., Lawrence Co.; Paul W. Rissell, Hempfield Twp., Mercer Co.; The Rev. Carlton R. Howells, Shade Twp., Somerset Co.; Robert P. James, N. Franklin Twp., Washington Co., and Edward T. Hoak, Manor, Westmoreland Co.

July Big Month in CD

(Continued from Page 1)

California, chairman of a subcommittee which has taken eight volumes of testimony of Civil Defense and who sponsored a much stronger Civil Defense bill, supported the measure sponsored by Congressman Carl T. Durham of North Carolina, although he criticized it sharply in lengthy remarks on the floor. It appeared plain that he still favored his bill, which would have transformed FCDA into a regular cabinet department of the Federal government.

The fate of the Durham bill in the Senate was, to say the least, uncertain, especially in the light of the preoccupation of the Senate with the bitterly controversial civil rights legislation.

[NOTE: The Congress adjourned Saturday, August 30, without any action by the Senate on the Durham bill.]

4. The State Council of Civil Defense completed its planning for the second annual observance of National Civil Defense Week. Recommendations to County and local directors for Pennsylvania's participation were contained in SCCD Information Circular No. 81, dated Aug. 6.

Basic suggestion was the County and local organizations concentrate on public demonstrations of past CD accomplishments and future development of county and local organizations.

5. The State Council's new chief of Emergency Care Services, Miss Elizabeth E. Eicherly, completed plans for the Council's new Instructor Training Program on the principles and practice of Mass emergency care, which will be launched at a five-day seminar to be held Oct. 21-25, inclusive, at the Holiday Motel west of Harrisburg.

6. The State Council also completed a major physical property move when some 1,700 tons of emergency materials stockpiling was transferred from area 1 to Area 16 at the Indiantown Gap Military Reservation. The supplies, including much medical materiel such as refrigerated blood plasma, were moved to some eighty buildings in the newly-occupied area.

The big moving operation involved 79,440 storage packs occupying over 382,914 cubic feet and weighing 1,591 tons in medical supplies alone.



Col. Lloyd M. Morris, Blair County CD Director (left) and Lt. Gov. Roy E. Furman (second from left) listen attentively as Dr. Richard Gerstell, Director of the State Council of Civil Defense, gives a "Well done" to the radio amateurs who furnished the field communications for "Operation Escape," the joint Blair-Cambria County evacuation exercise held Sunday, July 14. Central Area Director J. Robert Stimmel is in the mobile communications post at the fair grounds at Ebensburg.

"Operation Escape" Gives An Answer

What proportion of the residents of an average American city will participate in a Civil Defense exercise, assuming perfect planning, massive and skillful publicity and suitable timing?

The answer to that question, which should be of absorbing interest to every Civil Defense director everywhere was obtained by Col. Lloyd M. Morris of the Blair County-Altoona Council on Sunday, March 14.

The answer, empirically, is about 1,700 people out of an available 5,000. And if the exercise is an evacuation test, you can expect to get 420 vehicles out of an available 1,000.

The answer was obtained from "Operation Escape," a test so carefully planned that Dr. Richard Gerstell, Director of the State Council of Civil Defense took virtually his entire staff to Altoona to watch the play of the exercise.

And Lt. Gov. Roy E. Furman, al-

ways a good friend of Civil Defense, also monitored the exercise.

Dr. Gerstell declared the test a success and warmly praised the Blair-Altoona organization for the flawless planning that went into the project.

If anything was overlooked, it escaped the attention of the State staff. Even Altoona hotel guests received a special summary of the plan.

Max Bloomberg, Cambria County director, was also praised for his conduct of the Ebensburg reception center operations.

The essence of the exercise was the conduct of a smoothly-coordinated column of vehicles from downtown Altoona to some fifteen miles to an ideal reception center at the Ebensburg fair grounds in adjoining Cambria County.

A full discussion of the exercise will be carried in the next issue of THE KEYSTONE DEFENDER.

New Emergency Care Head

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member of numerous medical and scientific societies, including the Association of Military Surgeons.

Upon taking over her new responsibilities, Miss Eicherly said:

"In accord with recent thinking and developments on the National scene it will be necessary to adjust present plans for Emergency Care to meet long range needs. This does not mean that there will be any major change in basic principles or policy now established, but may indicate modification of plans and their further adaptation so as to consolidate effort without duplication if possible. It would seem necessary to, in the future, more closely integrate all of the Emergency Care services, and to this end our efforts will be directed.

"In order to provide the necessary orientation and instruction to our registered nurses a proposed Instructor-Trainer course for this group will be given October 21-25 inclusive. These women will become consultants to the area and local directors as instructors for other nurses in the field of Disaster and Emergency Care.

"Further programming will become evident as time goes on—for in this day of most rapid change it will take a very fleet individual running very fast to remain standing in one place."

Operation Alert

(Continued from Page 4)

From then on the exercise took on the aspects of a massive communications drill, with telephones, teletypes and radio facilities used as required.

The planned logging and routing of messages went smoothly and without untoward event. From the time the directors in the "hit" areas were handed sealed messages by State Police which told them for the first time that they were "target areas" to the final message, realism was the dominant characteristic of the atmosphere at State Council Headquarters.

Perhaps one of the most valuable results of the exercise was the detailed picture of the operations of Civil Defense, as they would be conducted in the event of actual attack or major natural disaster, to the relatively many new members of the state staff and the county and local CD organizations.

Bright and early Monday morning evaluation of the exercise was begun at State Council Headquarters.

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Industry representatives who took a full part in "Operation Alert 1957" are shown following the play of the big national exercise in the command control room in the Capitol. Left to right are Theodore Staab, executive secretary of the Pennsylvania Bakers Association; Donald M. Parke, assistant managing director of the Pennsylvania Retailers' Association; Henry R. Geisinger, executive vice president of the Pennsylvania Association of Milk Dealers, and Mrs. Gweneth Zarfoss of the Department of Public Instruction, former State Council Welfare services head, who came back to the Council for the day.